

## A NOTE ON THE GENUS ARTAMUS AND ITS GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.

By R. BOWDLER SHARPE, M.A., F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c.

THE recent discovery of some fine *Artami* has directed considerable attention to the genus; and I accede with pleasure to the request of my friend Mr. Dawson Rowley to jot down a few notes on the Wood-Swallows for the 'Ornithological Miscellany.' It would be supposed that in the case of a genus of which the members are by no means rare, as a rule, we should be in a position to speak very positively on the subject of the species; but such is by no means the case, and there are several points in regard to the Australian *Artami* to which I particularly invite the attention of Mr. Ramsay and other workers at the antipodes.

In Mr. G. R. Gray's 'Handlist' we find 22 species included in the genus *Artamus* alone, and in the *Artamidæ* are placed four genera, as follows:—

### 1065. ARTAMUS.

#### a. Subgenus ARTAMUS, with 16 species.

Of these I consider the following to be synonymous:—4269. *A. leucorhynchus*, L.; 4273. *A. leucogaster*, Valenc.; 4279. *A. leucopygialis*, Gould; and 4282. *A. papuensis*, Temm. *A. arnouxi*, Bp., I cannot make out from the

miserable description, "entièrement grise." *A. albiventris*, Gould, is doubtfully distinct from *A. cinereus*, from which *A. melanops*, Gould, will be also with difficulty separated. To the number must be added the lately discovered *A. maximus*, Meyer, and *A. insignis*, Sclater.

1066. *b.* ———?

The only species placed in this unnamed section is *A. minor*, which is, in my opinion, a small but true *Artamus*.

1067. *c.* ———?

Whether Mr. Wallace, whom I follow, is right in putting the *Artamidæ* where he does, is a question to be settled later on (*cf.* *Ibis*, 1874, p. 412); but I think there is no doubt at all that Mr. Gray was wrong in placing such a bird as *Leptopterus chabert* in the *Artamidæ* at all. This is the sole species he assigns to his unnamed section no. 1067; and why he did not call it *Leptopterus*, Bp., of which *L. chabert* is the type, I am at a loss to conjecture. A glance at the wings of this and the succeeding species will show that they are more truly Laniine than Artamine in their affinities (*cf.* Sharpe, Cat. B. iii. p. 282).

1068. *d.* ———?

The usual name for the next two species is *Artamia*; but Mr. Gray seems to show that a change is necessary. If, as is generally allowed now, *Oriolia bernieri* is the young of *Artamia viridis*, the former generic name must be employed, and the species called *Oriolia viridis*. Of the second species, *A. rufa* (L.), I make a *Vanga* (*cf.* *P. Z. S.* 1871, p. 319).

1069. *e.* CYANOLANIUS, Bp.

*C. bicolor* is no *Artamus*, but goes along with the other birds above mentioned.

1070. *f. ANAIS*, Lesson.

*A. clemenciae*, from Borneo, is the type; and I know nothing of the species; nor does Count Salvadori (Ucc. Born. p. 142), to whom the Marquis of Tweeddale suggests that it may be a manufactured bird.

1071. *ORIOLIA*, Isid. Geoffr.

This genus is kept distinct, though the species is the young of *Artamia viridis* (vide anteà). In justice to Mr. Gray it must be remembered that he had not seen an example.

1072. *PSEUDOCHELIDON*, Hartl.

I think Mr. Gray has found out the right position of this genus, which is not far removed from *Artamus*.

1073. *ANALCIPUS*, Swains.

As I have endeavoured to show in my ' Catalogue of Birds ' (iii. p. 188), this genus, containing the Blood-coloured Orioles, is not really separable from *Oriolus*.

With these few preliminary remarks, I propose to give a short note on the species of *Artamus* known to me, as represented in the British Museum. The following species are unknown to me, or have been wrongly placed in the genus *Artamus* :—

## ARTAMUS LEUCORHYNCHUS.

*La Pie-grièche de Manille*, Briss. Orn. ii. p. 180, pl. xvii. fig. 2 (1760).

*Lanius leucorhynchus*, Linn. Mantissa, p. 524 (1771, ex Brisson); Gm. S. N. i. p. 305 (1788).

*La Pie-grièche dominiquaine des Philippines*, Sonnerat, Voy. N. Guin. p. 54 (1776).

*Lanius philippinus*, Scop. Del. Flor. et Faun. Insubr. ii. p. 85 (1786, *ex* Sonnerat).

*Lanius dominicanus*, Gm. S. N. i. p. 307 (1788, *ex* Sonnerat).

A species said to be from Manilla, concerning which *vide infrà*.

#### ARTAMUS ARNOUXI.

*Artamus arnouxi*, Bp. C. R. xxxviii. p. 538 (1854); Gray, List B. Trop. Isl. Pacific Ocean, p. 23 (1858); id. Handl. B. i. p. 289. no. 4284 (1869).

All that is known of this species is the statement that it is "entièrement grise," and that it was brought by Dr. Arnoux to the Paris Museum along with a second species from New Caledonia; but whether *A. arnouxi* is from the latter island we are not informed.

#### ARTAMUS, sp.

*Artamus leucorhynchus*, Hartl. & Finsch, P. Z. S. 1868, p. 116, and 1872, p. 99.

*Hab.* Pelew Islands.

The question of the Pelew-Islands *Artamus* is discussed further on, under the heading of *A. leucogaster*.

#### ARTAMUS CUCULLATUS, Nicholson, P. Z. S. 1851, p. 196, pl. xlivi.

A species described as an *Artamus* from India, and figured by Mr. Wolf with a thorough *Artamus*-like bill; but it is disposed of in the following manner by Mr. Blyth (*Ibis*, 1865, p. 43), who says that is nothing but a male of *Sylvia orphea*, "being founded on a bad native drawing, which Dr. Sclater kindly showed to me."

#### ARTAMUS.

Type.

*Artamus*, Vicillot, Analyse, p. 41 (1816) . . . . . *A. leucogaster*.

*Ocypterus*, Cuvier, Règne Anim. i. p. 339 (1817) . . . *A. leucorhynchus*.

*Leptopteryx*, Horsf. Tr. Linn. Soc. xiii. p. 143 (1821) . *A. leucogaster*.

*Range.* Confined to the Indian and Australian Regions.

*Clavis specierum.*

- a.* Uropygio imo et supracaudalibus purè albis: pectore albo.
  - a'.* Dorso nigro vel brunnescente.
    - a''.* Capite undique cimeraceo: dorso toto brunnescentiore . . . . . *leucogaster.*
    - b''.* Capite undique nigro.
      - a'''.* Major, alâ 6·3, nigerrimâ dorso concolori . . . . . *maximus.*
      - b'''.* Minores: alâ 5·2, nigricante, schistaceo lavatâ.
        - a<sup>4</sup>.* Guttura circumscripte nigro: genis posticis, regione paroticâ et colli lateribus concoloribus . . . . . *melaleucus.*
        - b<sup>4</sup>.* Guttura nigro, genis posticis utrinque albis: regione paroticâ tantum et colli lateribus concoloribus . . . . . *mentalis.*
    - b'.* Dorso purè albo.
      - c''.* Capite undique, alis caudâque cinerascenti-brunneis . . . . . *monachus.*
      - d''.* Capite undique, alis caudâque nigris . . . . . *insignis.*
  - b.* Uropygio brunneo dorso concolori: supracaudalibus cinerascenti-albis: pectore pallidè vinaceous-brunneus . . . . . *fuscus.*
  - c.* Uropygio et supracaudalibus clarè cinereis, dorso concoloribus.
    - e''.* Subtûs vinaceo-eastaneus: supercilio lato albo . . . . . *superciliatus.*
    - f''.* Subtûs pulchrè cinereus: supercilio lato nullo . . . . . *personatus.*
  - Uropygio et supracaudalibus nigris.
    - c'.* Subtûs cinerascens: mento nigro.
      - g''.* Lineâ angustâ frontali nigricante: gulâ summâ et mento nigricantibus.
        - c'''.* Major: subcaudalibus nigris latè albo marginatis . . . . . *cinereus.*
        - d'''.* Major: subcaudalibus albis . . . . . *albiventris.*
        - e'''.* Minor: subcaudalibus nigris angustè albo limbatis: facie latius quam in praecedentibus nigrâ . . . . . *melanops.*
      - h''.* Lineâ angustâ frontali nullâ: mento ipso et angulo anteoculari tantum nigris.
        - f'''.* Major: rectricibus duabus medianis albo terminatis in eodem modo quam laterales coloratis . . . . . *perspicillatus.*
        - g'''.* Minor: rectricibus duabus medianis omnino nigris: reliquis albo terminatis . . . . . *venustus.*
    - d'.* Subtûs sordidè brunneus: mento vix saturatiore.
      - i''.* Multò major: suprà brunneus, supracaudalibus nigris, uropygio dorso concolori: subalaribus albis . . . . . *sordidus.*
      - k''.* Multò minor: suprà brunneus, supracaudalibus uropygioque nigris: subalaribus pectori concoloribus vix pallidioribus . . . . . *minor.*

## 1. ARTAMUS LEUCOGASTER.

*Ocypterus leucogaster*, Valenc. Mém. Mus. d'Hist. Nat. vi. p. 21, pl. vii. fig. 2 (1820).

*Leptopteryx leucorhynchus*, Horsf. Tr. Linn. Soc. xiii. p. 244 (1821, nec L.).

*Lanius leucorhynchus*, Raffles, tom. cit. p. 386 (1821).

*Leptopteryx leucogaster*, Wagler, Syst. Av. *Leptopteryx*, sp. 2 (1827).

*Ocypterus leucorhynchus*, Kittlitz, Kupf. Vög. p. 23, Taf. xxx. fig. 1 (1832).

*Artamus leucopygialis*, Gould, P. Z. S. 1842, p. 17; Gray, Gen. B. i. p. 285 (1845); Gould, B. Austr. folio, ii. pl. 33 (1848); Blyth, Cat. B. Mus. A. S. B. p. 199 (1849); Bp. Conspl. i. p. 344 (1850); Reichenb. Vög. Neuholl. p. 171 (1850); Gould, P. Z. S. 1863, p. 233; id. Handb. B. Austr. i. p. 154 (1865); Walden, P. Z. S. 1866, p. 555; Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4279 (1869); Masters, Pr. Linn. Soc. N. S. W. i. p. 48 (1877); Castelnau & Ramsay, tom. cit. p. 380; Ramsay, tom. cit. p. 392; id. op. cit. iii. p. 179 (1878).

*Artamus leucorhynchus*, Gray (nec L.), Gen. B. i. p. 285 (1845); Bp. Conspl. i. p. 343 (1850); Cab. Mus. Hein. Th. i. p. 208 (1850); Cass. U.S. Expl. Exp. Birds, p. 140 (1858); Gray, P. Z. S. 1860, p. 354; Wallace, Ibis, 1860, p. 141; Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4869 (1869); Walden, Ibis, 1872, p. 371; id. Tr. Z. S. viii. p. 67 (1872); id. Ibis, 1873, p. 309; Hume, Str. F. 1874, p. 214; id. Nests & Eggs Ind. B. p. 195 (1875); Salvad. Ucc. Born. p. 140 (1875); Sharpe, Ibis, 1877, p. 21; Tweeddale, tom. cit. p. 313.

*Artamus leucogaster*, Gray, Gen. B. i. p. 285 (1845); Bp. Conspl. i. p. 343 (1850); Horsf. & Moore, Cat. B. Mus. E.I. Co. i. p. 161 (1854); Bernst. J. f. O. 1859, p. 268; Wallace, P. Z. S. 1863, pp. 28, 485; Selater, tom. cit. p. 217; Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 324; Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289 (1869); Salvad. Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. vii. pp. 656, 770 (1875); id. op. cit. viii. p. 377 (1876), ix. p. 28 (1876), x. p. 138 (1877).

*Artamus papuensis*, Bp. Conspl. i. p. 344 (1850, ex Temm. MS. in Mus. Lugd.); Gray, P. Z. S. 1858, p. 179, & 1861, p. 435; id. Hand-l. B. i. p. 289 (1869); Beccari, Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. vii. p. 709 (1875).

*Artamus leucorhynus*, Walden, Tr. Z. S. ix. p. 174 (1875); Sharpe, Tr. Linn. Soc. new ser. i. p. 323 (1877); Tweeddale, P. Z. S. 1877, p. 544.

*Ad. suprà brunneus, vix chocolatinus, uropygio et supra caudalibus purè albis fasciam transversam exhibentibus: pileo et collo undique cineraceis: loris et margine frontali magis nigricantibus: corpore reliquo subtùs cum subalaribus et axillaribus purè albis: scapularibus dorso conceoloribus: alâ saturatè schistacea, remigibus nigris: caudâ nigrâ vix apicaliter pallidiore: rostro pallidè cyanescente: pedibus pallidè plumbeis: iride saturatè choelatinâ. Long. tot. 7·5, culmen 0·8, aiae 5·35, caudæ 2·55, tarsi 0·75.*

*♀ ad. mari similis: rostro cyanescenti-griseo, apicaliter nigro: pedibus viridiscenti-griseis: iride brunneâ.*

*Hab.* S. Andaman Islands (*Hume, Davison, Ramsay*), Little Coco Island

(*Davison*) ; Sumatra (*Raffles, Wallace*), Lampong District (*Buxton*) ; Java (*Horsfield, Wallace*). Philippine Islands : Luzon (*Meyer*), Negros (*Meyer*), Guimaras (*Meyer*), Cebu (*Everett*), Dumalon, Mindanao (*Steere*). Mangsi, Sulu archipelago (*Peale*) ; Labuan (*Motley, Ussher*) ; Borneo—Sibu, Santubong Bay, Marup, Brui, Bintulu (*Everett*), Sarawak (*Doria & Beccari*), Banjermassing (*Motley*) ; Bali (*Wallace*) ; Lombock (*Wallace*) ; Flores (*Wallace*) ; Timor (*Mus. Lugd., Wallace*) ; Celebes—Tondano, Menado, Macassar (*Wallace*) ; Batchian, Gilolo, Morty Island (*Wallace*) ; Bouru (*Wallace*) ; Goram (*Wallace*) ; Kè Islands (*Beccari*). Mysol (*Wallace*) ; New Guinea (*Wallace*) ; Sorong (*D'Albertis*), Arfak Mountains (*D'Albertis, Laglaize*), S.E. New Guinea (*Ramsay*) ; Port Moresby (*Broadbent & Petterd*) ; Naiabui (*D'Albertis*) ; Aru Islands (*Wallace*). Australia—Port Darling and Port Essington, Gulf of Carpentaria, Cape York, Rockingham Bay, Port Denison, Wide-Bay District, Richmond and Clarence-River District, New S. Wales, Victoria, S. Australia (*Ramsay*), N.W. Australia (*Elsey*), Peron's Peninsula, Shark Bay, W. Australia (*Rayner*).

This is the species called by recent writers *Artamus leucorhynchus* (L.) ; but on carefully comparing the description, I believe it will be impossible to recognize in the present bird Brisson's "Pie-griesche de Manille," on which Linnæus founded his *Lanius leucorhynchus*.

I think that the title of *leucorhynchus* cannot be retained for the Philippine bird, as its colours are stated to be black and white ; and any one examining the ordinary Indo-Malayan *Artamus*, which is the species of the Philippines, will find that Brisson's description does not tally ; nor does Sonnerat's account and figure ("La Pie-grièche dominiqaine des Philippines," Voy. Nouv. Guinée, p. 54). The question is somewhat complicated by the fact that there are certain black-and-white *Artami*, such as *A. melaleucus* (Forster) from New Caledonia, and *A. maximus*, Meyer, from N.W. New Guinea, &c. ; but it is highly improbable that either of these species formed the subject of Brisson's or Sonnerat's description. It appears, too, from the

paper of Drs. Hartlaub and Finsch on the birds of the Pelew Islands, that the latter group actually contain a black-and-white *Artamus*, which the above-named authors identify with the *Lanius leucorhynchus* of Linnaeus (*cf.* P. Z. S. 1868, p. 116). It will be only fair to them to quote their exact words :— “The fact is that there are two species of *Artamus* in the Philippines, and more especially on the island of Luzon. One is the old Brissonian *Lanius manillensis*, figured also by Sonnerat. This is the large species, black above and white below. It is certainly this species which is found on the Pelew Islands. The other is the well-known Javan species—a somewhat smaller bird, with the upper parts of a more or less greyish or purplish brown. We have examined many specimens from the island of Luzon, where it appears to be more common than *A. leucorhynchus*. . . .” My own experience goes with that of the Marquis of Tweeddale (*cf.* Walden, Tr. Z. S. ix. p. 174), in so far that I have never seen but one *Artamus* from the Philippines ; and that is the same as the ordinary Indo-Malayan bird, called in this paper *Artamus leucogaster* (Valenc.). The reason why I adopt this title is that it is the first recognizable description of the species. So long as there is a doubt about the Brissonian bird from the Philippines, I think that the name ought to be discarded, though Lord Tweeddale says that he has “no doubt that from it Brisson and Sonnerat took their descriptions.” Here I can only say, “Not proven !”

What the bird from the Pelew Islands really is cannot be determined without a specimen.

Having examined a large series of this *Artamus*, from nearly every locality mentioned above, I have come to the conclusion that only one species can be admitted, under the title of *A. leucogaster*, with a record of certain differences of size. Thus some examples from Celebes are larger, while the Australian birds are generally the smallest. Even in the Celebesian specimens the variation in size is more apparent than real, the length of the closed wing being in a Bornean bird about 5·35. I find that a specimen collected by Mr. Wallace at Tondano has the wing 5·3 inches ; others from Macassar and

Menado respectively have it 5·25. Some individuals from N.W. Australia (*A. leucopygialis*, Gould) measure only 4·95 inches in the wings; but there is no corresponding difference in plumage.

As regards the distribution of the species in Australia, I have given above the localities as determined by Mr. Ramsay in a paper on the birds of that continent, with a proof of which he has favoured me. I also append the note in Mr. Gould's 'Handbook'; but it must be observed that this Wood-Swallow does go to Western Australia, as is evidenced by the specimen procured in Shark Bay by Dr. Rayner during the voyage of H.M.S. 'Herald.' Mr. Gould writes:—"Tasmania and Western Australia are the only colonies in which this bird has not been observed; its range, therefore, over the continent may be considered as very general: in South Australia and New South Wales it would appear to be migratory, visiting these parts in summer for the purpose of breeding. Among other places where I observed it in considerable abundance was Mosquito and the other small islands near the mouth of the Hunter, and on the borders of the rivers Mokai and Namoi, situated to the northward of Liverpool Plains; in these last-mentioned localities it was breeding among the large flooded gum-trees bordering the rivers."

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, ad.* Philippine Islands (*Cuming*). *b, ad.* Java (*Horsfield*). *c, ♀.* W. Java (*Wallace*). *d, ♂ ad.* Sumatra (*Wallace*). *e, ad.* Sibu Island, May 5, 1874 (*Everett*). *f, ♀ ad.* Bali (*Wallace*). *g, h, ♂ ad., i, juv.* Lombok (*Wallace*). *k, ad., l, juv.* Flores (*Wallace*). *m, n, o, p, ad.* Timor (*Wallace*). *q, ♂ juv.* Timor (*Wallace*). *r, ♂ ad.* Macassar, Celebes (*Wallace*). *s, ♀ ad.* Tondano, Celebes (*Wallace*). *t, ♀ ad.* Menado (*Wallace*). *u, v, ad.* Batchian (*Wallace*). *w, ad.* Gilolo (*Wallace*). *x, ad.* Morty Island (*Wallace*). *y, ♀ ad.* Bouru (*Wallace*). *z, a', ad., b', juv.* Goram (*Wallace*). *c', ad., d', juv.* Mysol (*Wallace*). *e', ♂ ad.* Aru Islands (*Wallace*). *f', ad.* New Guinea (*Wallace*). *g', ad.* Island of Batanta (*Laglaize*). *h', i'.* Australia (*Sir T. Mitchell*). *k', ad.* Australia (*J. Gould*). *l'.* Port Essington (*Capt. Chambers*). *m'.* N.W. Australia (*J. R. Elsey*). *n', ad.* Mangrove Swamp, N.W. Australia (*J. R. Elsey*). *o'.* Peron's Peninsula, Shark Bay, May 1858 (*F. M. Rayner*).

## 2. ARTAMUS MAXIMUS.

*Artamus maximus*, Meyer, Sitz. Akad. Wien, lxix. p. 203 (1874); Slater, Ibis, 1874, p. 417; Beccari, Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. vii. p. 709 (1875); Gould, B. New Guin. part vi. (1878).

♂ ad. suprà nigerrimus: uropygio et supraaudalibus tantùm purè albis: alis omnino nigris: rectricibus nigris, apicaliter angustissimè albido limbatis: capitis et colli lateribus, gutture toto et praepectore nigerrimis, dorso concoloribus: corpore reliquo subtùs purissimè albo: subalaribus albis, extimis parvis nigris: remigibus infrà cineraceis. Long. tot. 7·5, culmen 0·8, alæ 6·3, caudæ 2·8, tarsus 0·75.

Hab. New Guinea: Arfak Mountains (Meyer, Beccari, Laglaize).

This fine and distinct species has recently been figured by Mr. Gould (*l. c.*); and the above description is taken from the type specimen; lent him by Dr. Meyer.

### Spec. in Mus. Brit.

a, ♂ ad. Arfak Mountains, N.W. New Guinea (Laglaize).

## 3. ARTAMUS MELALEUCUS.

*Loxia melaleuca*, Forster, Icon. ined. 40; id. Deser. Anim. p. 272 (1844).

*Leptopteryx melaleuca*, Wagler, Syst. Av. *Leptopteryx*, sp. 1 (1827).

*Ocypterus berardi*, Bp. C. R. xxxviii. p. 538 (1854).

*Artamus melaleucus*, Gray, P. Z. S. 1859, p. 163; id. List B. Trop. Isl. Pacific Ocean, p. 23 (1859); Finsch, P. Z. S. 1877, p. 739.

*Artamus melanoleucus*, Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4280 (1869).

♂ ad. suprà saturatè fuliginoso-brunneus, pileo toto nuchâque, capitis lateribus et gutture toto nigris: uropygio et supraaudalibus purè albis: scapularibus dorso concoloribus: alâ totâ schistaceo-nigrâ, remigibus intùs cano lavatis: rectricibus nigris angustè albo apicaliter limbatis: corpore reliquo subtùs cum subalaribus et axillaribus purè albis: remigibus infrà cinereis, intùs cano lavatis. Long. tot. 7·2, culmen 0·75, alæ 5·2, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·6.

♀ ad. mari similis: pileo brunnescens, vix cucullato. Long. tot. 6·2, alæ 5·15, caudæ 2·7, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. New Caledonia (Forster); Loyalty Islands (Whitmee); Api, New Hebrides (Murray).

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, b, ♂, ♀ ad.* Nu, Port de France, New Caledonia, May 13th, 1858 (*J. Macgillivray, Esq.*) *c, ad.*  
Lifu, Loyalty Islands (*Rev. S. J. Whitmee*).

## 4. ARTAMUS MENTALIS.

*Langrayen de Viti*, Hombr. & Jacq. Voy. Pôle Sud, pl. 9. fig. 1 (1843).

*Artamus mentalis*, Jardine, Ann. N. Hist. xvi. p. 174, pl. viii. (1845); Bp. Conspl. Av. i. p. 344 (1850); Cass. U.S. Expl. Exp. Birds, p. 141 (1858); Gray, List B. Trop. Isl. Pacific Ocean, p. 23 (1858); Finsch & Hartl. Faun. Centralpolyn. p. 84, tab. 1. fig. 5 (1867); Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4281 (1869); Layard, P. Z. S. 1875, p. 434; id. Ibis, 1876, p. 392.

*Ocypterus mentalis*, Peale, U.S. Expl. Exped. 1848, p. 84, pl. 23. fig. 2; Hartl. in Wiegmann Archiv, 1852, p. 98.

*Artamus vitiensis*, Hombr. & Jacq. Voy. Pôle Sud, Zool. iii. p. 73 (1853).

*♂ ad.* suprà fuliginoso-niger, pileo vix saturatiore, scapularibus dorso concoloribus: uropygio imo et supracaudalibus purè albis: rectricibus nigris, intùs ad apicem conspicuè albo terminatis: alà totà nigrâ: facie laterali gulâque nigris: genis posticis, gutture imo et corpore reliquo subtùs cum subalaribus axillaribusq; purè albis: præpectoris lateribus fuliginoso-brunneis: remigibus infrâ sordidè cinereis, intùs versùs basin albis: rostro pulchrè cyanescente, apicaliter nigro: pedibus corneo-nigricantibus: iride brunneâ. Long. tot. 7·2, culmen 0·9, alæ 5·05, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·7.

*Hab.* Fiji Islands—Ovalau, Waikaia, Mokani, Vanua Levu, Taviuni, Loma Loma, Mango, Viti Levu (*Layard*).

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, ♂.* Island of Ovalau, August 1856 (*F. M. Rayner*). *b, c, ♂.* Island of Ngau, October 1853 (*F. M. Rayner*). *d.* Ndreketti, Fiji (*E. L. Layard*).

## 5. ARTAMUS MONACHUS.

*Artamus monachus*, Bp. Conspl. Gen. Av. i. p. 343 (1850, ex Temm. MS. in Mus. Lugd.); Wallace, Ibis, 1860, p. 141; id. P. Z. S. 1862, p. 340; Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4272 (1869); Walden, Tr. Z. S. viii. p. 67, pl. vi. fig. 1 (1872); Gould, B. New Guinea, part vi. (1878).

♀ ad. Capite, nuchâ, facie laterali et gutture toto pallidè umbrinîs, pileo summo saturatiore: collo postico, dorso toto, scapularibus, uropygio et supracaudalibus purè albîs: alâ saturatè cinerascenti-brunneâ, tectricibus minimis et medianis umbrino lavatis: caudâ saturatè cinerascenti-brunneâ: præpectore et corpore reliquo subtûs purè albîs: subalaribus albîs: remigibus infrâ cineraceis, intûs albîs. Long. tot. 7·5, culmen 1·05, alæ 6·3, caudæ 2·9, tarsi 0·75.

*Hab.* Celebes, Menado (*Wallace*); mountain-districts of North Celebes (*Wallace*); Sula Islands (*Wallace*).

For the opportunity of describing the above specimen I am indebted to Mr. Gould, who received it in exchange from the Leiden Museum. It is marked “♀. Celebes: Duyvenbode, 1866.” On comparing it with the Sula-Island skins in the Museum, I can find no differences in plumage; but the size is rather smaller, the wing measuring 5·75 to 5·8 inches.

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

a, b, ad. Sula Islands (*A. R. Wallace*).

#### 6. ARTAMUS INSIGNIS.

*Artamus insignis*, Sclater, P. Z. S. 1877, p. 101, pl. xv.; Gould, B. New Guinea, part vi. (1878).

♂ ad. pileo toto nuchâque, facie laterali et gutture toto nigerrimis: collo postico, interscapulio et scapularibus, dorso toto, uropygio et supracaudalibus purè albîs: alis caudâque nigerrimis, rectricibus intûs angustissimè albido limbatis: præpectore et corpore reliquo subtûs purè albîs: subalaribus albîs, minimis externis nigerrimis: remigibus infrâ cineraceis, intûs ad basin albîs: rostro cyanescente. Long. tot. 7·3, culmen 1·0, alæ 5·65, caudæ 2·6, tarsi 0·8.

*Hab.* New Ireland (*G. Brown*).

The description is taken from the type specimen kindly shown to me by Dr. Sclater; it is now in the Marquis of Tweeddale's collection.

## 7. ARTAMUS FUSCUS.

*Artamus fuscus*, Vieill. N. Dict. d'Hist. Nat. xvii. p. 297 (1817) ; Gray, Gen. B. i. p. 285 (1845) ; Blyth, J. A. S. B. xv. p. 299 (1846) ; Gray, Cat. Mamm. &c. Nepal Coll. Hodgs. p. 98 (1846) ; Blyth, Cat. B. Mus. A. S. B. p. 199 (1849) ; Bp. Conspl. i. p. 344 (1850) ; Horsf. & Moore, Cat. B. Mus. E.I. Co. i. p. 161 (1854) ; Cass. in Perry's Exped. Japan, Birds, p. 238 (1856) ; Gould, P. Z. S. 1859, p. 151 ; Jerd. B. Ind. i. p. 441. no. 287 (1862) ; Swinh. P. Z. S. 1863, p. 287 ; Beavan, P. Z. S. 1865, p. 692 ; Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4270 (1869) ; Godwin-Austen, J. A. S. B. 1870, p. 100 ; Swinh. Ibis, 1870, p. 247 ; id. P. Z. S. 1871, p. 377 ; Holdsw. P. Z. S. 1872, p. 440 ; Ball, Str. F. 1874, p. 403 ; id. Str. F. 1875, p. 291 ; Hume, tom. cit. p. 102 ; id. Nests & Eggs Ind. B. p. 194 (1875) ; Blyth & Wald. B. Burm. p. 126 (1875) ; Armstrong, Str. F. 1876, p. 321 ; Hume, tom. cit. p. 458, & 1877, p. 30 ; David & Oustalet, Ois. Chine, p. 101 (1877).

*Ocypterus rufiventris*, Valenc. Ann. Mus. vi. p. 25, pl. vii. fig. 1 (1820).

*Leptopteryx rufiventer*, Wagler, Syst. Av. *Leptopteryx*, sp. 3 (1827).

*Artamus leucorhynchos*, M'Clell. P. Z. S. 1839, p. 158 (nec L.).

*Ocypterus leucorynchus*, Jerd. (nec L.), Madr. Journ. x. p. 237 (1839).

*Ad.* suprà sordidè brunneus, supracaudalibus grisescenti-albis fasciam transversam angustum formantibus : pileo colloque undique clarè cinereis : lineâ angustissimâ frontali lorisque nigricantibus : mento summo et genis anticus etiam nigro adumbratis : corpore reliquo subtùs pallidè vinaceo-cinerascente, subcaudalibus albicantibus : subalaribus albis, alâ sordidè schistaceâ, remigibus nigricantioribus : caudâ nigrâ sordidè albido terminatâ : rostro pulchrè pallidè cyaneo, apicaliter brunnescente : pedibus schistaceo-cinereis, unguibus saturatè corneis : palpebris ciuereis : iride saturatè brunneâ\*. Long. tot. 6·3, culmen 0·8, alæ 5·3, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 0·65.

*Hab.* India generally and Ceylon (*Jerdon*) ; Nepal (*Hodgson*) ; Assam (*Jerdon*) ; Arakan (*Blyth*) ; Tipperah (*Irwin*) ; Khasi hills (*Godwin-Austen*) ; Burmah (*Blyth*) ; Tonghoo and Karen hills (*Wardlaw Ramsay*) ; Upper Pegu (*Oates*) ; Siam (*Schomburgk*) ; Cochin China (*David & Oustalet*) ; S. Hainan (*Swinhoe*) ; Macao (*Perry*).

A more detailed account of the geographical distribution of the Indian Wood-Swallow may be gathered from the writings of *Jerdon* and *Hume*.

\* In adding the soft parts of the species of *Artamus*, I have taken the best field-notes I could find. In the above instance the colours are derived from Mr. Oates's observations ; and he adds :— “Inside of the mouth black in some, bright yellow in others. I have not yet discovered the reason of this.”

It is not until one begins to study the distribution of Indian birds that one becomes sensible of the great work which is being done in 'Stray Feathers' by Mr. Hume and his coadjutors.

Mr. Jerdon writes :—" This Swallow-Shrike is spread throughout the whole of India and Ceylon, being very numerous in some localities, but locally distributed ; for you may pass over large tracts of country, apparently well suited for them, and not see one. It extends into Assam and Burmah. It is most abundant in wooded districts, especially where palm trees abound, more particularly the Palmyra palm, from which, indeed, it takes several of its native names. Where they are numerous several may be seen seated on the same branch ; but they fly off independently of each other, and after a flight of some few minutes return either again to the same perch or to another tree. At times I have seen an immense flock in the air all together, hunting for insects, and remaining on the wing for a much longer period. A small party may occasionally be seen skimming over the surface of a tank, picking up an insect now and then, and returning to a high bough of a tree over-hanging the water. They live entirely on insects of various kinds. I have found them most abundant in the Carnatic, the Malabar coast, the Northern Circars, and Bengal, very rare in the Deccan and Central India. To my great surprise I found them on the sides of hills at Darjeeling, on cleared spots, up to above 4000 feet of elevation."

Captain Beavan also met with it in the last-named place ; and Hodgson obtained many examples in Nepal.

Mr. Ball observes, in 1874 :—" The Ashy Swallow-Shrike is rather rare in Chota Nagpur. My only specimen from the division was found in Sirguja. This bird also occurs in the Rajmehal hills, where it is, I think, less rare. I have recently met with it in the Satpuras." In a later paper (1875) he writes :—" It is perhaps not so rare as I stated. In November last I came across a large flock in Singbhum, out of which I shot some specimens. From Mr. Levin I hear that he got a bird of the year in 1873, and subsequently both nest and eggs, in Palamar."

In Ceylon, according to Mr. Holdsworth, it is "generally distributed over the low country, but is locally abundant at certain seasons. It is very common at Aripo and in the neighbourhood of Colombo during the N.E. monsoon. I have always found it in small parties, and easy of approach."

Dr. Armstrong also met with the species, on the island of Ramesuram.

In a paper on the birds of North-eastern Cachar, Mr. Inglis says :— "The Ashy Swallow-Shrikes are often seen, in flocks, throughout the year. I have not seen their nests."

The range of the species in Burmah is given in the list of localities ; and it goes as far down as Upper Pegu, where Mr. Oates says that it abounds throughout the plains. Eastward it extends through Siam to Cochin China and Hainan, where Mr. Swinhoe got specimens.

The American expedition to Japan met with the present species at Macao, in China, where, however, all Mr. Swinhoe's efforts to procure the bird proved futile.

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, b, c, ad.* N.W. Himalayas (*Pinwill*). *d, e, ad.* Behar (*Hodgson*). *f-i, ad., juv.* Nepal (*Hodgson*).  
*k, ad.* Darjiling (*Jerdon*). *l, m, n, ad.* Madras (*Baber*). *o, ad., p, juv.* Kandy district,  
Ceylon (*White*).

## 8. ARTAMUS SUPERCILIOSUS.

*Ocypterus superciliatus*, Gould, P. Z. S. 1836, p. 142 ; id. Syn. B. Austr. part i. (1837).

*Artamus superciliatus*, Gray, Gen. B. i. p. 285 (1845) ; Reichenb. Vög. Neuhol. p. 169 (1848) ;

Gould, B. Austr. folio, ii. pl. 32 (1848) ; Blyth, Cat. B. Mus. A. S. B. p. 199 (1849) ; Bp. Conspl. i. p. 344 (1850) ; Cab. Mus. Hein. Th. i. p. 169 (1850) ; Pelz. Reis. Novara, Vög. p. 82 (1865) ; Müller, P. Z. S. 1869, p. 279 ; Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289 (1869) ; Ramsay, Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W. iii. p. 179 (1878).

♂ *ad.* suprà schistaceus, uropygio et supra caudalibus cinerascentibus : alà cineraceâ, remigibus omnibus nigro terminatis : rectricibus cineraceis albo terminatis et fasciam apicalem exhibentibus : supercilio lato albo ab oculo antico usque ad nucham ducto : loris, facie laterali et gutture toto schistaceo-nigris, hoc infrà clariùs schistaceo : corpore reliquo subtùs

vinascenti-castaneo : tibiis clarè cinercis : subalaribus albis, margine alari schistaceo : remigibus subtùs pallidè cineraceis intùs canis : rostro cyanescente, apicaliter nigro : pedibus saturatè plumbeis : iride nigricante. Long. tot. 7·5, culmen 0·75, alæ 5·05, caudæ 2·85, tarsi 0·8.

♀ ad. mari similis sed pallidior : dorso magis brunneseente, et capite schistaceo nec nigricante : corpore subtùs pallidiore vinaceo, et gutture toto schistaceo distinguenda. Long. alæ 4·75, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·8.

Juv. adultis dissimilis : cinerascens, plumis omnibus angustè albo striolatis : remigibus albo terminatis : rectricibus vix albo apicatis : loris et regione paroticâ fuscescenti-schistaceis : corpore subtùs cinerascente, plumis albido striolatis, abdomine fusco marmorato, plumis hòc colore limbatis.

*Hab.* Australia.

Mr. Gould gives the following note on the range of this species :—

“ I am unable to say what is the extent of its range ; but I am induced to believe that it is confined to Australia, and that in all probability it seldom leaves the interior of the country—the extreme limits of the colony of New South Wales, particularly those which border the extensive plains, being the only parts where it has yet been observed. I first met with it at Yarrundi, on Dartbrook, a tributary of the Hunter, where it was thinly dispersed among the trees growing on the stony ridges bordering the flats.”

Mr. Ramsay’s list of localities are the following :—“ Wide-Bay district ; Clarence-and-Richmond-Rivers district ; New S. Wales ; Interior ; Victoria ; South Australia.”

#### *Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, b, ♂, ♀.* S. Australia (*Sir G. Grey*). *c, d, ♂, ♀.* Australia (*Sir T. Mitchell*). *e, ♀ ad.* Sydney, N. S. W., November 1876 (*Sydney Museum*). *f, ♂ ad., g, ♀ juv.* Homebush, N. S. W., January 1877 (*Sydney Museum*). *h, ♂ ad.* Bankstown, N. S. W., December 1876 (*Sydney Museum*).

#### 9. ARTAMUS PERSONATUS.

*Ocypterus personatus*, Gould, P. Z. S. 1840, p. 149.

*Artamus personatus*, Gray, Gen. B. i. p. 285 (1845) ; Gould, B. Austr. folio, ii. pl. 31 (1848) ;

Bp. Conspl. Av. i. p. 344 (1850); Reichenb. Vög. Neuhol. p. 170 (1848); Cab. Mus. Hein. i. p. 208 (1850); Gould, Handb. B. Austr. i. p. 150 (1865); Pelz. Reis. Novara, Vög. p. 82 (1865); Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4277 (1869).

♂ ad. suprà saturatè schistaceus, dorso postico et uropygio magis canescens : tectricibus alarum dorso concoloribus : remigibus nigricanti-schistaceis angustè albo apicaliter limbatis, omnibus subterminaliter conspicuè cano adumbratis : rectricibus canis albo terminatis fasciam latam formantibus : fronte lorisque, facie laterali totâ et gulâ nigris, vertice quoque nigro adumbrato : corpore reliquo subtùs cinerascente, torque gutturali indistinctâ a regione postauriculari ductâ : tibiis cinerascentibus : subalaribus et axillaribus albis : remigibus subtùs cinereis, versùs apicem nigricantibus, intùs basaliter albis : rostro cyanescente, apicaliter nigro : pedibus lactescenti-plumbeis : iride nigricanti-brunneâ. Long. tot. 7·2, culmen 0·75, alæ 4·9, caudæ 3·15, tarsi 0·8.

♀ ad. mari similis sed sordidior : dorso alisque brunnescentioribus : subtùs brunnescenti-cincrascens, torque gutturali indistinctâ cinereâ : facie laterali gulâque sordidè schistaceis. Long. tot. 7, culmen 0·75, alæ 4·85, caudæ 3·05, tarsi 0·75.

*Hab.* Australia.

Mr. Gould observes :—“ My knowledge of the range of this species is very limited. A single specimen was sent me from South Australia; while fine examples were killed by Gilbert in the colony of Swan River.”

Mr. Ramsay has the following list of localities :—“ Wide-Bay district : Richmond- and Clarence-River districts : N. S. Wales : Victoria : South Australia : West Australia.”

#### *Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, b, ♂, ♀ ad.* South Australia (*Sir George Grey*). *c, ♀ ad.* West Australia (*J. Gould*). *d, ♀ ad.* Between the Avon and Salt Rivers, W. Australia (*J. Gould*). *c, d.* Central Australia (*Capt. Sturt*).

#### 10. ARTAMUS CINEREUS.

*Artamus cinereus*, Vieill. N. Dict. d'Hist. Nat. xvii. p. 297; Gray, Gen. B. i. p. 285 (1845); Gould, B. Austr. folio, ii. pl. 29 (1848); Reichenb. Vög. Neuhol. p. 168 (1848); Bp. Conspl. i. p. 344 (1850); Gould, P. Z. S. 1863, p. 233; id. Handb. B. Austr. i. p. 147 (1865); Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289 (1869); Ramsay, P. Z. S. 1875, p. 584.

*Ocypterus cinereus*, Valenc. Mém. Mus. vi. p. 22, pl. ix. fig. 2 (1820).

*Leptopteryx cinerea*, Wagler, Syst. Av. *Leptopteryx*, sp. 4 (1827).

*♂ ad.* suprà brunneus, pilo vix pallidiore: supercilio et regione paroticâ pallidioribus brunneis: corpore subtùs cinerascenti-brunneo: fronte angustâ, loris, palpebrâ, genis et regione paroticâ anticâ gulâque nigricantibus: alâ totâ sordidè cinereâ, plumis extùs angustissimè pallidioribus: dorso imo et supracaudalibus nigris: rectricibus duabus centralibus nigris, reliquis nigris latè albo terminatis: crasso et subcaudalibus nigricantibus, his albo terminatis: tibiis extùs albis, intùs nigricantibus: subalaribus et axillaribus et remigibus intùs albis: rostro pallidè grisescenti-cyaneo, apicaliter nigro: pedibus virescenti-plumbeis: iride nigricanti-brunneâ. Long. tot. 7·5, culmen 0·75, alæ 4·95, caudæ 3·0, tarsi 0·85.

*♀* haud a mari distinguenda.

*Hab.* Australia.

"In Western Australia," writes Mr. Gould, "it is a very local but by no means an uncommon species, particularly at Swan River, where it inhabits the limestone hills near the coast and the 'Clear Hills' of the interior."

Mr. Ramsay gives "West Australia" and "Port Darling and Port Essington" as the habitat of the species.

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, b, ad.* South Australia (*Sir T. Mitchell*). *c.* Central Australia (*Capt. Sturt*). *d, juv.* West Australia (*J. Gould*).

### 11. ARTAMUS ALBIVENTRIS.

*Artamus albiventris*, Gould, P. Z. S. 1847, p. 31; id. B. Austr. folio, ii. pl. 30 (1848); Bp. Conspl. i. p. 344 (1850); Gould, Handb. B. Austr. i. p. 149 (1865); Ramsay, P. Z. S. 1868, p. 383; Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4276 (1869); Masters, Proc. Liun. Soc. N. S. W. i. p. 48 (1877); Castelnau & Ramsay, tom. cit. p. 380 (1877).

*A.* similis *A. cinereo*, sed subcaudalibus albis distinguendus: rostro flavicanti-corneo, apicaliter nigro: pedibus nigricanti-brunneis.

*Hab.* Australia.

"Two examples of this species are all that have come under my notice: one of these was killed on the Darling Downs, in New South Wales; and the

other some distance to the northward of that locality, it being one of the birds procured during Dr. Leichardt's expedition to Port Essington." (Gould, *l. c.*).

This is a species with which I am unacquainted, as the only specimen in the Museum referred to it by the late Mr. G. R. Gray appears to be only *A. cinereus* with a little more white on the under tail-coverts, possibly a variable character.

Mr. Ramsay gives the following localities :—"Gulf of Carpentaria; Rockingham Bay; Port Denison; Wide-Bay district." He appears to regard it as a good species.

## 12. ARTAMUS MELANOPS.

*Artamus melanops*, Gould, P. Z. S. 1865, p. 198; id. Handb. B. Austr. i. p. 149 (1865); id. B. Austr. folio, Suppl. part v. (1869); Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4283 (1869).

*A. similis A. cinereo* sed minor : facie latius nigricante et subcaudalibus nigris angustius albo terminatis distinguendus.

*Hab.* Australia.

Mr. Gould writes as follows in his original account of the species :— "The specimen from which the above description was taken has been kindly sent to me by Mr. S. White, of the Reed-beds, near Adelaide, South Australia, who informs me that it was shot by him at St. à Becket's Pool, lat.  $28^{\circ} 30'$ , on the 23rd of August, 1863, and who, in the notes accompanying it, says :—'I have never seen this bird south. It collects at night, like *A. sordidus*, and utters the same kind of call. It seems to be plentiful all over the north country, and particularly about Chambers Creek and Mount Margaret.'"

Mr. Ramsay considers it to be confined to the "Interior, Victoria, and South Australia."

I am very doubtful about the species, as we have in the Museum two specimens from Cape York received from Mr. Gould as his *Artamus melanops* : and these two individuals I can hardly separate from *A. cinereus*. They have a little more black on the face, and narrower white edgings to the under tail-coverts : this appears to be the best character ; but, as I have already hinted, it appears to be somewhat variable. At the same time this species is so little known that perhaps *A. venustus*, nob., may turn out to be only the adult stage.

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, b, ad.* Cape York (*J. Gould*).

13. *ARTAMUS PERSPICILLATUS.*

*Artamus perspicillatus*, Bp. Conspl. i. p. 344 (1850, ex Temm. MS. in Mus. Lugd.) ; Wallace, Ibis, 1861, p. 348 ; id. P.Z.S. 1863, p. 485 ; Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4271 (1869).

*Ocypterus albivittatus*, Kittlitz, Kupf. Vög. p. 23, pl. xxx. fig. 2 (1832).

*♂ ad.* suprà cinerascenti-brunneus : pileo undique colli lateribus et corpore subtùs clariùs cinerascentibus : mento ipso, loris et palpebrâ nigris : uropygio imo et supracandalibus nigris : rectricibus nigris, latè albo terminatis : alâ totâ saturatè cinereâ, remigibus versùs apicem nigricantibus et angustè albo terminaliter limbatis : hypochondriis sordidiùs cinerascentibus : tibiis clariùs cinereis : subcaudalibus nigris : subalaribus et axillaribus albis : remigibus infrâ sordidè cinereis, intùs versùs basin albis. Long. tot. 8, culmen 0·85, alæ 5·05, caudæ 3·1, tarsi 0·9.

*♀ ad.* vix à mari distinguenda. Long. tot. 8, alæ 5·2, caudæ 3·2, tarsi 0·95.

*Juv.* similis adultis, sed marginibus plumarum albidis varius : subtùs magis canescens, plumis cano terminatis.

*Hab.* Timor.

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, b, ♂, c, ♀ ad., d, juv.* E. Timor (*J. Wallace*).

14. *ARTAMUS VENUSTUS*, sp. n.

*Ad.* suprà cinerascens, pileo undique, capitib. lateribus et corpore subtùs toto clarioribus et magis

canescensibus : genis anticis, loris et mento ipso nigris : uropygio imo et supracaudalibus nigris : rectricibus duabus mediis omnino nigris, reliquis nigris latè albo terminatis : alâ totâ cinereâ, remigibus subterminaliter nigricantibus, angustissimè albo apicaliter limbatis : abdomine imo et subcaudalibus nigris, his longissimis apicaliter albis : tibiis clarè cinerascentibus : subalaribus et axillaribus et remigibus intùs albis : rostro plumbeo, ad apicem nigro : iride saturatè brunneâ. Long. tot. 7, culmen 0·7, alæ 4·65, caudæ 3, tarsi 0·7.

♀ mari similis, sed magis brunnescens. Long. tot. 7·5, alæ 4·75, caudæ 3·0, tarsi 0·7.

*Juv.* suprà brunneus, pilei dorsique plumis medialiter ochrascenti-brunneo striatis et terminatis : dorsi postici uropygiique plumis et supracaudalibus ochrascenti marginatis : tectricibus alarum ut in dorso marginatis : remigibus latius albo terminatis : subtùs cinerascens, subcaudalibus pallidè brunneo terminatis.

*Hab.* North-western Australia.

Five specimens of this bird are in the Museum, brought by Dr. Elsey during the expedition to North-western Australia. Some of them were determined by the late Mr. G. R. Gray as *A. perspicillatus*, and some as *A. cinereus*. They appear to me to be neither the one nor the other. The white tips to the under tail-coverts and the two entirely black central tail-feathers sufficiently prove that they are not *A. perspicillatus*. From *A. cinereus* the females of the north-western bird are more difficult to tell ; but they are smaller, and do not have the black so extended on the cheeks ; and this character seems to prevent their being *A. melanops*.

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, b, ♂ ad., c, ♀ ad., d, ♂ juv.* N.W. Australia (Dr. Elsey). *e, ♀ ad.* Depot, N.W. Australia, Nov. 29, 1855 (Dr. Elsey).

### 15. ARTAMUS SORDIDUS.

*Sordid Thrush*, Lath. Gen. Syn. Suppl. ii. p. 186 (1801).

*Turdus sordidus*, Lath. Ind. Orn. Suppl. p. xlvi (1801).

*Artamus lineatus*, Vieill. N. Dict. xvii. p. 297 (1817).

*Ocypterus albovittatus*, Valenc. Mém. Mus. vi. p. 23, pl. viii. (1820) ; Less. Traité, p. 37, pl. 44.

fig. 2 (1831) ; Gould, Synopsis B. Austr. part i. (1837).

*Artamus albovittatus*, Vig. & Horsf. Tr. Linn. Soc. xv. p. 210 (1826).

*Leptopteryx albovittata*, Wagler, Syst. Av. *Leptopteryx*, sp. 5 (1827).

*Artamus sordidus*, Gray, Gen. B. i. p. 285 (1845); Gould, B. Austr. folio, ii. pl. 27 (1848); Blyth, Cat. B. Mus. A. S. B. p. 200 (1849); Reichenb. Vög. Neuhol. p. 168 (1848); Bp. Conspl. i. p. 344 (1850); Cab. Mus. Hein. i. p. 208 (1850); Gould, Handb. B. Austr. i. p. 143 (1865); Ramsay, Ibis, 1866, p. 327; Gray, Hand-l. B. i. p. 289. no. 4274 (1869); Müller, P. Z. S. 1869, p. 279; Ramsay, P. Z. S. 1875, p. 584.

♂ ad. supra chocolatinus, dorso postico et uropygio saturatioribus, supra caudalibus paullo nigricantibus: loris et genis anticis obscurè fuscescentibus: subtùs chocolatino-brunneus, abdomine imo et hypochondriis magis rufescentibus, subcaudalibus nigris, subalaribus albis: alâ schistaceo-cinereâ: remigibus saturatiùs cinereis, primariis extùs albis: rectricibus nigris, albo terminatis, duabus mediis omnino nigris, rectricis extimae pogonio interno tantùm albo: remigibus infrâ sordidè cinereâ: rostro cyaneo, apicaliter nigro: pedibus lactescenti-plumbeis: iride saturatè brunneâ. Long. tot. 7, culmen 0·7, alæ 5·1, caudæ 3·1, tarsi 0·75.

♀ mari similis: vix minor.

*Hab.* Australia; Van Diemen's Land.

The distribution of this species is given by Mr. Gould as follows:—"No species of the Australian *Artami* with which I am acquainted possesses so wide a range as the present; the whole of the southern portion of the continent, as well as the island of Tasmania, being alike favoured with its presence. The extent of its range northward has not yet been satisfactorily ascertained, beyond the certainty that it has not hitherto been received in any collection from the north coast. It may be regarded as strictly migratory in Tasmania, where it arrives in October, and after rearing at least two broods departs again in a northward direction. On the continent of Australia it arrives rather earlier, and departs later; but a scattered few remain throughout the year in all the localities favourable to their habits, the number being regulated by the supply of insect food necessary for their subsistence. I may here observe that specimens from Swan River, South Australia, and New South Wales present no difference either in size or colouring; while those from Tasmania are invariably larger in all their measurements, and are also of a deeper colour."

In Mr. Ramsay's paper the range is tabulated as follows:—"Rockingham Bay; Port Denison; Wide-Bay district; Richmond-and-Clarence-Rivers district; New S. Wales; Interior; Victoria; South Australia; Tasmania."

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, b.* Australia (*J. Gould*). *c, ad.* Australia (*Cooper*). *d, ♂ ad.* South Australia (*Sir G. Grey*).  
*e, juv.* Perth, Western Australia (*J. Gould*). *f, g, ♂, ♀ ad.* Tasmania (*Antarctic Expedition*). *h, i, k, ad.* Tasmania (*Ronald Gunn*). *l, pull.* Georgetown, Tasmania (*J. Gould*).

## 16. ARTAMUS MINOR.

*Artamus minor*, Vieill. Nouv. Dict. d'Hist. Nat. xvii. p. 298 (1817); Gray, Gen. B. i. p. 285 (1845); Gould, B. Austr. folio, ii. pl. 28 (1848); Reichenb. Vög. Neuholl. p. 168 (1848); Bp. Consp. i. p. 344 (1850); Gould, Handb. B. Austr. i. p. 146 (1865); Ramsay, Ibis, 1866, p. 327; Gray, Hand-list B. i. p. 290. no. 4285 (1869); Ramsay, P. Z. S. 1875, p. 584.

*Ocypterus fuscatus*, Valenc. Mém. Mus. d'Hist. Nat. vi. p. 74, pl. 9. fig. 1 (1820).

*Leptopteryx minor*, Wagler, Syst. Av. *Leptopteryx*, sp. 6 (1827).

*Ocypterus minor*, Gould, Synopsis B. Austr. part i. (1837).

*Ad.* minimus: chocolatino-brunneus, facie laterali et colli lateribus pileo concoloribus: subtus magis rufescens vix castaneus, lineâ angustâ frontali mento lorisque nigris: uropygio imo, supracaudalibus et subcaudalibus nigris: alis caudâque plumbeo-nigris, rectricibus intus ad apicem albis, duabus centralibus et rectrice extimâ haud albo terminatis, concoloribus: subalaribus pallidè cervino-brunneis: rostro pulchrè violescenti-cyaneo, apicaliter saturatiore: pedibus vix nigris: iride nigricante. Long. tot. 5·9, culmen 0·55, alæ 4·55, caudæ 2·65, tarsi 0·5.

*Juv.* similis adultis, sed plumis ochrascenti maculatis, corpore subtus fasciato, maculis caudæ apicalibus minoribus et griseo lavatis.

Mr. Gould writes as follows:—"I found the *Artamus minor* abundant on the Lower Namoi, particularly on the plains thinly studded with the *Acacia pendula* and other low trees in the neighbourhood of Gummel-Gummel, where it had evidently been breeding, as I observed numerous young ones whose primaries were not sufficiently developed to admit of their performing a migration of any distance; besides which, they were constantly being fed by the parents, who were hawking about in the air over and around the trees, while the young were quietly perched close to each other on a dead twig. I have received two specimens from Port Essington; and there are

examples in the Paris Museum from, I believe, Timor\*. It is evident, therefore, that this bird has a wide range."

Mr. Ramsay gives us the following localities :—" Port Darling and Port Essington ; Gulf of Carpentaria ; Rockingham Bay ; Port Denison ; Wide-Bay district ; Richmond-and-Clarence-Rivers district ; New S. Wales."

*Spec. in Mus. Brit.*

*a, ad.* Australia (*Sir T. Mitchell*). *b, ♀ ad.* Gilbert, lat.  $18^{\circ} 30'$ , long.  $143^{\circ}$  (*Dr. Elsey*). *c, d, ♂,*  
*♀ juv.* N.W. Australia (*Dr. Elsey*). *e, ♀ ad.* Peron's Peninsula, Shark Bay, W. Australia,  
May 1858 (*Dr. Rayner*). *f, ad.* Port Essington (*Capt. Chambers*). *g, h.* New South Wales  
(*J. Gould*).

\* This locality is erroneous.